ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIA COUNTY GLORGIA

...WHEN A PLAN COMES TOGETHER!

Commission Chairman

I suppose only older folks remember the TV show called the "A Team" in the early eighties. One of the main characters, other than Mr. T, was the boss named John "Hannibal" Smith. His signature line at the end of each show was "Don't you love it when a plan comes together?. Well, many plans continue to come together in Columbia County!

On Tuesday April 17th, the ribbon was cut to officially open the extension of Riverwatch Parkway into Columbia County; a project that has been on the books for almost thirty years. Funding was approved for the first phase back in the nineties and the remainder was not available until the passage of the Transportation Act of 2010, aka T-SPLOST. This is a tremendous asset to our citizens and I am sure you have already experienced the convenience of this expressway. Some plans take longer than others, but it is truly great when they come together.

Another plan that is about to come together is the widening of Washington Road from Gibbs Road to William Few Parkway. This 2010 SPLOST project is in the final stages of paving

tainment to Columbia County. Thanks again to the voters for approving funds for this project in two different SPLOST and GO Bond referendums. All residents should "love it" when this plan comes together.

The March 19th groundbreaking for the new 550,000 sq. ft. warehouse for Club Car began a project that is set to be occupied in early 2019. That is fast for a building of this size. Thanks to our Development Authority for giving us this "plan" to celebrate in the new future.

The new signal at William Few Parkway and Chamblin Road seems to have alleviated much of that traffic delay. Again, thanks to our staff and GDOT for continuing to find solutions for this problem when a round-about plan was cost prohibitive.

Have you noticed the new Evans Towne Center Drive? This plan also was accomplished in a relatively short period of time to allow traffic to continue down the drive while protecting pedestrians walking between the Plaza and the park. Speaking of plans that came together, what about Evans



and should be totally complete in another three weeks. The initial completion set for the end of 2017 has been pushed to now because of weather and utility issues. Thanks to the voters of Columbia County for financing this much needed project and this plan will come together shortly.

All projects do not take forever to be completed. Thanks to our traffic division and GDOT for the improvements at I-20 and Lewiston Road. The addition of another turn lane has made a tremendous difference in the back-up along I-20. It took more than a year in discussions with the Federal Highway Administration and GDOT to make this happen but that is rather fast in road improvement scheduling. We also "love it" more when things are accomplished quickly.

When compared to road projects, our Performing Arts Center will be built quickly. The groundbreaking on Feb. 28 started a two year journey to bring Broadway type enterTowne Park? Thanks again to you voters for supporting this park with your votes and your attendance. The second phase of that plan, The Plaza, when completed will be another great asset to the county.

A different type of plan that truly came together was the recent Rock Fore Dough concert and the Keith Urban concert. There was much concern about planning two major events only days apart; the details took some great cooperation between the promoters, county staff, and the artist's agents. Thanks to the officials of "First Tee of Augusta" and "Friends with Benefits" for making this plan a success. Combined attendance for these events was more than sixteen thousand people. Keith Urban had the largest attendance of any single event except Thunder over Evans.

continued on next page...

continued from first page

Columbia County has a great history of plans coming together. In the years of my tenure, we have completed the Evans library and have since added one in Harlem and are planning now for the one in Grovetown. We added the first and second phases of Building C. We completed the Exhibition Center and added parking and additional rental facilities at Savannah Rapids Pavilion. We purchased Building G and started a wellness program in that building for employees, as well as leased a large portion to the Georgia

Projects in the planning stage not yet financed include the widening of Hardy McManus Road, Hereford Farm Road, Stevens Creek Road, and intersection improvements at Chamblin Road and Baker Place Road at Wrightsboro Road.

In addition we have seen an enormous influx of commercial development. The county has several new Wal-Marts, phase one and two of Mullins Crossing, the fabulous Gateway Development on both sides of I-20 and Lewiston Road, an

when a plan comes together?

Department of Revenue. We have completed a new Animal Services building, a new Health Department building, two Recycling Centers, an office for the Georgia State Patrol and the Department of Driver Services. We have added bike lanes and multi-purpose trails to many roadways and started a Greenway program that will ultimately cover almost all of the county. We have purchased land and completed Evans Towne Center Park and are currently adding an Evans town center called the Plaza, which includes planning and starting construction on the Performing Arts Center. We have completed Riverwatch Parkway and the widening of Washington Road along with connecting William Few Parkway with Hardy McManus Road. We have constructed much needed turn lanes in many locations around the county; started construction on Evans to Locks Road to complete the multi-use trail to the Savannah Rapids; several intersection improvements; and many others. Future improvements already financed include the addition to the Justice Center, an addition to the Detention Center, road widenings at Flowing Wells Road, Fury's Ferry Road, two portions of Lewiston Road, a new Building A in the government complex, the extension of Gateway Blvd. to Wrightsboro Road, four parks around different areas of the county and the widening of the bridge at I-20 and the Appling-Harlem Highway.

additional Lowes store and a new Home Depot. We have also added medical facilities such as many pharmacies, Prompt Care facilities, personal care and nursing facilities, and one day a hospital.

All of the above additions to the county and many more not mentioned have two very important things in common; one, a vision and good planning for the future of the county by the commission, and two, the support and input of our great county citizens. Very little of this would have happened without community involvement and voter support. The amazing thing is that these things have been accomplished while maintaining a triple A bond rating, a fully accredited and award winning Sheriff's Department and a ISO Class 1 Fire Service; more amazing when you consider that property taxes were lowered three times during that period.

You have to "Love it when a plan comes together" even if the plan takes a while. We in Columbia County have had much more than our share of good plans and celebration. Thanks to all of you for your support. We are truly blessed!

So while Hannibal, Mr. T, Face, Murdock, and the others complete their plans of action in reruns, we will continue to make Columbia County an excellent place to live in real time.



SERVICE CHARGE CREDIT INFORMATION

A stormwater credit is a reduction in the monthly stormwater utility service fee. The overall goal of the County is to give a credit to property owners that are reducing the impact of stormwater generated by their property. By reducing the peak discharge of stormwater from their property, through either a retention or detention facility such as a pond, property owners are helping the County protect properties downstream. By complying with the Federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements, property owners are helping the County improve water quality. Columbia County is offering two types of credits for

this assistance: Peak Flow Reduction Credit (also known as a pond credit) and NPDES Water Quality Credit. The maximum amount of credit available is 50% of the total stormwater utility monthly service fee. For more information about the service charge credits, go to www.columbiacountyga.gov Stormwater department, billing and SERVICE CHARGE CREDIT INFORMATION. REMINDER: Please remember that previously applied credits expire June 30. Please submit proper inspection documentation to prevent a discontinuation of any credits. If you have any questions, please contact 706.855.7246.

MAY 2018

Date	Time	Program	Branch	Description
		1		
M, W, & Th beginning May 30	10:15 AM	Two-ddlers Class	Evans Library	Join us weekly for this fun program to learn and practice new & engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills!
M, W, & Th beginning May 30	11 AM	Preschool Class	Evans Library	Join us weekly for this fun program to learn and practice new & engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills!
Tues	10:30 AM-12:30 PM	ESL	Evans Library	Free and open to adults whose first language is not English. Come and practice your conversational English with us!
Tues beginning May 29	10:15 AM	Baby & Me: Crawlers	Evans Library	Join us for singing, reading, bouncing, playing, and fun! Please preregister.
Tues	10:30 AM	Child Enrichment	Harlem Library	Each week we will read stories and do crafts geared to help children fall in love with reading.
Tues	10:30 AM	Baby & Me	Euchee Ck Library	This special class is designed especially for babies under two.
Tues & Wed beginning May 29	11AM	Baby & Me: Walkers	Evans Library	Join us for singing, reading, bouncing, playing, and fun! Please preregister.
Tues	4:15 PM	Child Enrichment	Euchee Ck Library	Stories, songs, dancing and the coolest crafts around. Registration required.
Wed	10:30 AM	Child Enrichment	Euchee Ck Library	Stories, songs, dancing and the coolest crafts around. Registration required.
Thur beginning May 31	4:30 PM	Afternoon Adventures	Evans Library	New & engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills! We take breaks to plan and regroup for upcoming sessions.
Tues, May 1	5:30-7 PM	Arts and Crafts Buffet	Evans Library	Avariety of crafting materials and art supplies to experiment with and create your own art! Dress for a mess. All ages. No registration.
Tues, May 1	5:30 PM	Teen Crafternoon	Harlem Library	Have fun socializing and making a fun craft! Please call the library at 706-650-5009 to register. Ages 11 and up.
Fri, May 4	10 AM	Internet Shopping & Couponing	Harlem Library	Get the best deals online. Class includes searching for best price with multiple store searches, online coupons. 706-650-5009 to register.
Fri, May 4	1:30 PM 5:30 PM	Basic Microsoft Excel	Harlem Library	Learn the basics of Microsoft Excel including cell properties, Auto SUM, and creating a simple budget.
Fri, May 4		Star Wars Party Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	Come dressed as your favorite character – themed games, activities, crafts, and more. Ages 4+. No registration. This is an afterhours event.
Mon, May 7	2 PM	,	Harlem Library	Come relax, enjoy and have fun coloring!
Mon, May 7	4:30 PM	Super Novas Club	Euchee Ck Library	Join us to make chromatography butterflies.
Tues, May 8	6 PM	Young Authors Club	Evans Library	Writing dub for aspiring young authors on second Tues of month. Story prompts & snacks. Grades 1-5. No registration. Children's classroom.
Thur, May 10 & 24	10:30 AM	Crochet Class	Harlem Library	Second and fourth Thurs of month. Beginners welcome! Provided supplies. Register at Info Desk or 706-650-5009.
Tues, May 15	10:30-11:30 AM	Baby Explorers	Evans Library	Drop in with your little explorers to this playtime for babies and toddlers! Ages 0-2. No registration.
Tues, May 15	5:30 PM	Family Movie Night	Evans Library	Join us to watch Moana on the big screen, eat popcorn, and have fun! Ages 3+. No registration. Classroom B/C in lobby.
Thur, May 17	4 PM	Harlem Book Club	Harlem Library	Come out and discuss An Hour Before Daylight by Jimmy Carter.
Fri, May 18	2:30 PM	STEM Class: Fractals, the Art of Math	Evans Library	Learn about fractals - geometric objects created by endlessly-repeating patterns. This talk will connect art and nature to math. Students will get to draw their own fractals. Presented by our friends from Fort Gordon. Grades 4-12. Children's classroom. Registration required.
Mon, May 21	11 AM	Storytime with Morris Museum	Evans Library	Friends from the Morris Museum of Art will be visiting for storytime and craft. Ages 2-5. Children's classroom. No registration required.
Wed, May 2 & 9	10 AM-3:30 PM	Computer Boot Camp 1 & 2	Evans Library	Learn basics of Windows including parts of the computer, using internet safely, saving to USB Flash drive, and basic maintenance.
Wed, May 2	12-1 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Mon, May 7	4-5:30 PM	Young Makers Program	Evans Library	Geared especially for children ages 8-12. Kids will learn about science, engineering, and design with hands-on experiences.
Mon, May 7	6:30 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Tues, May 8	4 PM	Teen Guitar Class	Evans Library	Guitar instructions. Up to 6 guitars available for use, cannot be taken home. Ages 11-18. Call 706-863-1946 ext. 4 to register.
Tues May 8, 15, & 22	5:30-7:30 PM	Chess Parts 1, 2, & 3	Evans Library	All ages! Attend with no experience, learn fundamentals and ability to play a game of chess. Have experience? Learn something new.
Wed, May 9	2-4 PM	Fiber Arts Craft & Chat	Euchee Ck Library	This group is open to all crafters: crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc. Open to people who want to learn as well as those already crafty.
Thur, May 10	1 PM	Col County Genealogical Society	Euchee Ck Library	Whether you're an experienced genealogist or just learning to find your roots, this dub has something for everyone.
Thur, May 10	4 PM	Teen Advisory Board	Evans Library	Help us decide what programs to offer this year while getting volunteer credit.
Thur, May 10	4-6 PM	Gadget Help with Alex	Evans Library	Get individual help with your electronic gadgets. First come, first serve; no appointment necessary.
Thur, May 10	6-8 PM	Adult Guitar Club	Evans Library	Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc.
Fri, May 11	11 AM	Estate Planing & Elder Care	Evans Library	Legal strategies to protect family and estate including: wills & trusts, estate planning, probate avoidance, powers of attorney, Medicaid and VA planning as well as the VA Aid & Attendance Benefit.
Sat, May 12	11 AM-3 PM	Minecraft Club	Euchee Ck Library	Bring your own device or laptop with Minecraft already loaded.
Mon, May 14 & 21	10 AM-3:30 PM	Computer Boot Camp 1 & 2	Evans Library	Learn basics of Windows including parts of the computer, using internet safely, saving to USB Flash drive, and basic maintenance.
Mon, May 14	3 PM	Genealogy Club	Evans Library	Join us to learn the basics then branch out to find your roots!
Mon, May 14	5:30 PM	Family Movie Night	Euchee Ck Library	Join us for a movie and popcom!
Mon, May 14	7 PM	Pub Fiction Book Club	Pizza Central	This laid-back book dub meets at Pizza Central in Evans. The May selection is <i>Like Lions</i> by Brian Panowich.
Wed, May 16	11:30 AM-1:30 PM	Environmental Matters Lunch & Learn	Evans Library	County Agent Tripp Williams with valuable tips on turfgrass success! Also lessons by Margaret Alligood on how you can help protect the Columbia County Environmental watershed along with other very interesting water related topics.
Wed, May 16	12-2 PM	Bookkeeping, Payroll, and Business Financials	Evans Library	A bookkeeping, payroll and business financial seminar is being presented by Tabitha Hollimon, MBA, EA and owner of Avail Bookkeeping and Tax Services.
Thur, May 17	11 AM	Adult Time Out	Euchee Ck Library	Join us to make coffee filter wreaths. Supplies & registration required.
Thur, May 17	11:30 AM	Brown Bag Book Discussion	Evans Library	The May selection is <i>Beneath a Scarlet Sky</i> by Mark Sullivan.
Thur, May 17	1-3 PM	Gadget Help with Alex	Euchee Ck Library	Get individual help with your electronic gadgets. First come, first serve; no appointment necessary.
Sat, May 19	All day	Evans Library dosed	Evans Library	Evans Library dosed due to Thunder over Evans
Mon, May 21	4-5:30 PM	Teen Makerspace	Evans Library	Teens 13-18 use CAD software, development software, 3D scanner & printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.
Mon, May 21	4:30 PM	Anime Club	Euchee Ck Library	Screening this season's most popular anime. No registration required.
Mon, May 21	6:30 PM	Mon Night Book Discussion	Evans Library	The May selection is A Gentleman in Moscow by AmorTowles.
Tues, May 22	4 PM	Teen Guitar Club	Evans Library	Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc. Ages 11 to 18.
Wed, May 23	2-4 PM	Fiber Arts Craft & Chat	Euchee Ck Library	This group is open to all crafters: crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc. Open to people who want to learn as well as those already crafty.

MAY 2018

Date	Time	Program	Branch	Description
Wed, May 23	3-5 PM	YouTube Class	Evans Library	Want to be a YouTube star? This class is for you! Learn logistics of creating content and making money on the site. All ages welcome!
Thur, May 24	10 AM-12 PM	Facebook Class	Evans Library	Basics of using Facebook including friends' lists, controlling what others see, and security. (Requirement: Must already have FB account)
Thur, May 24	10:30 AM	On the Same Page Book Club	Euchee Ck Library	The May selections are <i>The Reluctant Midwife</i> by Patricia Harman and <i>Daniel's Story</i> by Carol Matas.
Thur, May 24	1:30-3:30 PM	Snapchat and Instagram	Evans Library	Learn the basics of Instagram and Snapchat.
Thur, May 24	4-5:30 PM	Teen Makerspace	Evans Library	Teens 13-18 use CAD software, development software, 3D scanner & printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.
Sat, May 26-Mon, May 28	All Day	Libraries Closed for Memorial Day	All Branches	All branches will be closed for Memorial Day.
Wed, May 30	10AM	Birding Part 1	Harlem Library	Learn basics of bird watching and participate in a session right at the Library! Plus, basics of bird photography. 706-650-5009 to register.
Wed, May 30	1:30 PM	Resume & Job Search Class	Harlem Library	Come and learn how to write a basic resume and search online for jobs. 706-650-5009 to register.

All programs are subject to change. Call your local branch for details. Evans: 706-863-1946 Euchee Ck: 706-556-0594 Harlem: 706-556-9795

For a complete list of library programs, please visit www.gchrl.org

SUMMER CAMPS AT REED CREEK PARK

WETLAND ADVENTURE CAMP Does your child love the outdoors? During Wetland Discovery Camp we will be outside exploring the wetland, creek and pond at Reed Creek Park. Each day children will discover something new about wetlands and enjoy hands-on activities designed to inspire a love of the outdoors. Activities will include creating mini wetland habitats, orienteering with park maps, wetland research, pond and creek exploration and using a microscope to observe microscopic aquatic life. Campers will need to bring sack lunch and reusable water bottle each day.

JUNE 4-8 (AGES 5-7) • JUNE 25–29 (AGES 8-12) CAMP HOURS: 9AM – 1PM • COST: \$100/CHILD

JR. MASTER GARDENER CAMP: LEARN, GROW, EAT &

GO! (AGES 6-10) Calling all gardeners! The Junior Master Gardener program is an international youth gardening program of the university cooperative Extension network. Join the CSRA Master Gardeners to learn all about plants – why they are important to us, how to grow a garden, and how to give plants what they need. Campers will participate in a vegetable gardening project and learn why the plants were growing are important for health and nutrition. Children will be engaged in hands-on group activities and learning experiences that foster a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind. Campers will need to bring sack lunch and reusable water bottle each day. DATES: JUNE 11–15

CAMP HOURS: 9AM - 1PM • COST: \$100/CHILD



CSRA ADVENTURE CAMP (AGES 12-14)

Campers will meet at Reed Creek Nature Park each morning, then set out to explore the many outdoor activities in the CSRA: the Savannah River by kayak, practice their binocular skills while birding at Silver Bluff Audubon Preserve, become an Ecologist for a Day at Savannah River Ecology Lab and other fun outings. On Thursday we will spend the day at Wildwood Park with disc golf, kayaking, swimming and a cook out. Campers will need to bring a sack lunch, a snack, and a reusable water bottle every day except Thursday. Lunch will be served at Wildwood Park Thursday.

DATES: JULY 9-13

CAMP HOURS: 9AM - 3PM • COST: \$150/CHILD



COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S CORNER

LAW ENFORCEMENT CAREER DAY

Columbia County Government Complex Auditorium, Building A, 630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans Friday, June 1, 2018 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Is a career in law enforcement right for you? Learn what it takes to become one of Columbia County's finest. Recruiters will be onsite to answer questions and explain the application process.

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

Absentee voting by mail for the May 22, 2018 General Primary and Non-Partisan General Election is now available.

If you would like to receive an Absentee Ballot by mail, a written request must be submitted to our office. The last day a ballot may be mailed out is May 18, 2018.

Early/Advance Voting for the May 22, 2018 General Primary and Non-partisan General Election will be available April 30, 2018 through May 18, 2018, Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm in building G3, located at 610 Ronald Reagan Drive, in Evans, which is across the street from the Evans Post Office and next to Zaxby's. Saturday voting will be offered May 12, 2018 from 9 am to 4 pm in this same location.

In addition to the above location, beginning on Saturday, May 12, 2018 we will open two additional sites for Advance Voting. On May 12, 2018 from 9 am to 4 pm and the following week May 14-18, 2018 from 8 am to 5 pm. The two additional sites will be Patriots Park located at 5445 Columbia Road and Warren Baptist Church (in Grovetown) located at 777 Horizon South Parkway.

On Election Day, May 22, 2018 all 46 established and assigned precincts will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. Please confirm your registration and assigned precinct by visiting: www.mvp.sos.ga.gov

UPCOMING



FREE ADMISSION . FIREWORKS . FUN FOR ALL AGES



AUGUSTA COIN CLUE

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.
Purchase tickets from Club

Members or at Registration



The Michael Jackson Experience

UPCOMING



REGISTRATION: bit.ly/CCSummer18 OR @ PATRIOTS

COLUMBIA COUNTY

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF EVANS TOWN CENTER LOOK LIKE?

Join us for the final public meeting to find out and to have one last chance to get your input heard before the plan approval process is underway!

Draft Plan Presentation June 14, 2018 // 6:30pm



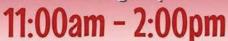
@ Jabez Sanford Hardin Performing Arts
Center, Columbia County Library
7022 Evans Town Center Blvd
Evans. GA 30809

visit our website: www.evanstowncenter.com

COLUMBIA COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES



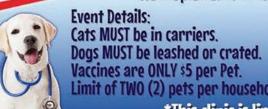
Join us along with the Dog Networking Agents for another PAWsome Saturday Adoption Event!







We are pleased to announce our first Low Cost Rabies clinic of the year!



Time & Location: Saturday, May 12th, 2018

Dogs MUST be leashed or crated.
Vaccines are ONLY \$5 per Pet.
Limit of TWO (2) pets per household.

11:30am - 1:30pm (or until vaccines are gone)
1940 William Few Pkwy - Grovetown, GA

This clinic is limited to Columbia County Residents

1940 WILLIAM FEW PKWY - GROVETOWN, GEORGIA